

Appl. No. 09/880,749
Amdt. dated July 30, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 12, 2004

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-29 are pending the present patent application. Claims 1, 11, 21, and 28 have been amended. No new matter has been added to the amended claims. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Drawings

Applicant requests that the objections to the drawings be held in abeyance until the present application has been allowed.

The Rejections Based on § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1, 11, 21, and 28 were rejected for purportedly omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, amounting to a gap between necessary structural connections. Specifically, the office action stated that the element "programmable logic portion" lacks a structural cooperative relationship with the first and the second JTAG circuits.

Claims 1, 11, 21, and 28 have been amended to address these rejections. Applicant submits that amended claims 1, 11, 21, and 28 recite sufficient structural cooperative relationships.

The Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-29 were rejected as being anticipated by or obvious in light of U.S. patent 6,681,359 to Au et al. U.S. Patent 6,681,359 was filed on August 7, 2000 and issued on January 20, 2004.

The present patent application was filed on June 12, 2001. The office action cited the Au et al. patent as a 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) reference against the pending claims.

The present patent application claims priority to a U.S. Provisional Patent application 60/211,094, filed on June 12, 2000. The features of the pending claims of the present application were disclosed in U.S. Provisional Patent application 60/211,094. Applicants respectfully submit that the Au et al. patent does not qualify as a § 102(e) reference against the claims for this reason.

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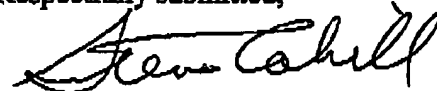
Therefore, applicants respectfully request that rejection of the claims based on Au et al. be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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